

4112.2 Certification

The Governing Board recognizes that the district's ability to provide a high-quality educational program is dependent upon the employment of certificated staff who are adequately prepared and have demonstrated proficiency in basic skills and in the subject matter to be taught. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that persons employed to fill positions requiring certification qualifications possess the appropriate credential, permit, or other certification document from the Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC) and fulfill any additional state, federal, or district requirements for the position.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide assistance and support to teachers holding preliminary credentials to enable them meet the qualifications required for the clear credential.

Priorities for Hiring Based on Unavailability of Credentialed Teacher

The Superintendent or designee shall make reasonable efforts to recruit a fully prepared teacher who is authorized in the subject or setting for each assignment or, when necessary, a fully prepared teacher serving on a local assignment option. Whenever a teacher with a clear or preliminary credential is not available, the Superintendent or designee shall make reasonable efforts to recruit an individual for the assignment in the following order: (Education Code 44225.7)

1. A candidate who enrolls in an approved intern program in the region of the district and possesses an intern credential.
2. A candidate who is scheduled to complete preliminary credential requirements within six months and who is granted a provisional internship permit (PIP) or short-term staff permit issued by the CTC.

The Board shall approve, as an action item at an open board meeting, a notice of its intent to employ a PIP applicant for a specific position. (5 CCR 80021.1)

3. An individual who has been granted a credential waiver by the CTC.

Prior to requesting that the CTC issue an emergency permit or a limited assignment permit, the Board shall annually approve a Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators. The Declaration of Need shall be approved by the Board as an action item at a regularly scheduled open board meeting, with the entire Declaration of Need included in the board agenda. (Education Code 44225, 44225.7; 5 CCR 80023.2, 80026, 80027, 80027.1)

The Declaration of Need shall certify that there is an insufficient number of certificated persons who meet the districts specified employment criteria for the position(s) and that the district has made reasonable efforts to recruit individuals who meet the qualifications specified in items # 1-2 above. The Declaration of Need shall also indicate the number and type of emergency permits that the district estimates it will need during the valid period of the Declaration of Need, based on the previous year's actual needs and projections of enrollment. Whenever the actual number of permits needed exceeds the estimate by 10 percent, the Board shall revise and resubmit the Declaration of Need. (5 CCR 80026)

Whenever it is necessary to employ noncredentialed teachers to fill a position requiring certification qualifications, the Superintendent or designee shall provide support and guidance in accordance with law to ensure the quality of the instructional program.

4112.2 Certification (continued)

National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Certification

The Board encourages district teachers to voluntarily complete the requirements for the advanced certification awarded by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.

Parental Notifications

At the beginning of each school year, the Superintendent or designee shall notify the parents/guardians of each student attending a school receiving Title I funds that they may request information regarding the professional qualifications of their child's classroom teacher including, but not limited to, whether the teacher: (20 USC 6312)

1. Has met state qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction.
2. Is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which state qualification or licensing criteria have been waived.
3. Is teaching in field of discipline of his/her certification.

In addition, the Superintendent or designee shall notify parents/guardians in a timely manner whenever their child has been assigned, or has been taught for four or more consecutive weeks by, a teacher who does not meet applicable state certification or licensure requirements at the grade level and subject area to which the teacher has been assigned. (20 USC 6312)

Board Approved:

October 22, 2020

November 10, 2016

August 13, 2015

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